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the bird dressed again in the universal ocean-and-rock colors of his habitat.—

Mr. Thayer's indictment of the naturalists may, if I have understood him aright, be summed up in four propositions. They have failed to realize that conspicuousness is solely a matter of relation to background; that black is conspicuous against white, and white against black, but that neither is conspicuous in and for itself. They have forgotten that there may be a vast difference between the conditions under which they see an animal and the conditions under which he is present, in nature, to his enemies or victims; so that his conspicuousness to human eyes may be altogether irrelevant. They have assumed, without test, that patterns make their wearers conspicuous. And, rightly noting the fact that aerial species in general are relatively conspicuous, they have failed to inquire whether any change of costume would remove or lessen this source of danger. In support of his own view—less, perhaps, a view than a discovery—Mr. Thayer offers a multitude of actual observations, covering all the main divisions of the animal kingdom. The labor involved in these observations has been immense, but has evidently been a labor of love. As such, it is its own reward; though external reward will also come in the conversion of many readers to the painter's, or, as I should prefer to say,—if this change of terms may be made without injustice,—to the psychological standpoint. No doubt, there remains the great and ultimate question of causation; but that remains for the followers of Bates and Müller no less than for Mr. Thayer.

E. B. TITCHENER.

Handbuch der Schwachsinnigenfürsorge mit Berücksichtigung des Hilfsschulwesens, Herausgegeben von Hans Bösbauer, Leopold Miklasu. Hans Schiner. Wien, Karl Graeser & Kie, 1909.

The following are the chapter headings: I. The nature of Feeble-mindedness. II. The kinds of Feeble-mindedness. III. Symptoms of feeble-mindedness (a) Bodily (b) Psychic. IV. Causes. V. Measures for prevention. VI. History of the movement for care of the feeble-minded. VII. Education and treatment of the feeble-minded. VIII. Forms of education. IX. Organization of institutions and "Special classes" (Hilfsschulen). X. Instruction. XI. Personality of the teachers. XII. After-care for the children who go out from the institutions and classes. XIII. Legal protection for, and military service by, the feeble-minded. XIV. Bibliography.

As is evident from the contents, the subject is discussed in many phases. The writers have gone over the literature with great thoroughness and have brought together many important facts and opinions. The book is conservatively written and gives no new data nor takes any advanced stand on any of the important questions involved. Most of the opinions quoted are given without criticism. The usual "causes" are given and discussed without much consideration of their relative importance. *E. g.*, alcohol is taken as a serious matter and important cause. No hint is given that any one doubts that it is an important cause.

In discussing "prevention," most everything is spoken of except the regulation of marriage—which would probably stop 80% of the trouble. Mention is made in fine print of a "*strange kind*" of law that has been passed in Indiana (the law authorizing castration). That is the only reference to that important matter. In discussing symptoms and education and treatment, the authors labor under the difficulty of too few heads of classification. "Feeble-mindedness" covers a wide range of conditions. It is not possible to discuss the

symptoms of feeble-mindedness in any helpful way without specifying many degrees of defect. The same is true of the education and treatment. The authors do make use of the term "idiot" for the lowest grade, but even then there is too much variation in what is left.

But this is a difficulty that we all labor under more or less. Three groups are fairly well marked out, but beyond that there is not much unanimity in the classification.

The book is well written and is a great contribution to our literature on the subject.

The bibliography is very extensive and a valuable adjunct. Its value would have been still greater if it had been classified or supplied with a subject index. The book ought to be translated into English. Our literature, that is available for any but the specialist, is far too scanty.

HENRY H. GODDARD.

The Survival of Man; a Study in Unrecognized Human Faculty. By Sir OLIVER LODGE, F. R. S. New York, Moffat, Yard & Co., 1909. pp. viii, 361. Price, \$2.50 net.

In this volume, Sir Oliver Lodge illustrates, by reference to investigations pursued during the past quarter of a century, the manner in which his own conviction of man's survival of bodily death has been acquired, and the kind of evidence by which he believes that this conviction will in due course be scientifically justified. The investigations which he reports deal with the phenomena of experimental telepathy, of spontaneous telepathy and clairvoyance, and of automatism and lucidity; an account of his experiences with the controverted and often discredited 'physical phenomena' associated with exceptional mental states is, the Preface states, reserved for another volume.

The book is frankly popular in its appeal, and contains nothing that is new to a student of the subject. Thus, the Introduction reprints the author's address delivered as president of the Society for Psychical Research in 1903; the evidence for telepathy is reprinted from the *Journal* and the *Proceedings* of the same Society, or from such well-known sources as Myers' *Human Personality*, and the *Phantasms of the Living*; and so on throughout. The writer's reliance is on the cumulative character of the testimony. No doubt, there are many readers who will be impressed by this feature; but there will be others, of stiffer mental fibre, who will insist that a chain is no stronger than its weakest link, and that, as every one of the links here passed in review has its weak place, the assemblage has no great claim to scientific consideration.

The discussion, as we should expect from the author's general reputation, is within its limits fair and candid. It is a question, however, whether the limits themselves should not, in the interests of science and truth, have been extended. Sir Oliver Lodge might, for instance, have inserted a chapter on the range of the unconscious whisper, on the indicativeness of unconscious head-movements, on muscle-reading, and on the various forms of experiment upon normal suggestibility published in the various psychological journals. The facts and conclusions of such a chapter would, surely, not have been out of place; it is a canon of scientific procedure to furnish negative as well as positive instances. The author is probably unaware of much of the work done upon these topics, in recent years, by experimental psychology. At the same time, its inclusion would have rendered his book less one-sided than it now appears.

FRANCIS JONES.